

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02
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INFO USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0320

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJ: AHG APPROVED CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE ON EASTERN
RESPONSE TO WESTERN INITIATIVE

THE AHG APPROVED THIS MATERIAL FOR NATO-WIDE TRANSMISSION
AT ITS JUNE 7 MEETING.

BEGIN TEXT.

IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES INDICATED
ON JUNE 7 THAT THEY WILL PRESENT THE MAIN POINTS OF THEIR
RESPONSE TO THE WESTERN INITIATIVE OF APRIL 19 IN A PRESS
CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THE PLENARY SESSION ON JUNE 8, THE
AHG ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY PRESS LINE FOR ITS
OWN USE.

POSSIBLE SITUATION
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EASTERN PRESS SPOKESMAN INFORMS PRESS THAT EAST HAS MADE
A RESPONSE TO THE WESTERN INITIATIVE AND REVEALS MAIN
ASPECTS OF EASTERN PROPOSALS.

SUGGESTED RESPONSE

1. THE EASTERN RESPONSE TO THE WESTERN INITIATIVE PRESENTED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS ON APRIL 19 HAS JUST BEEN RECEIVED. IT MUST BE STUDIED IN MORE DETAIL BEFORE WE CAN GIVE ANY REACTION.

2. HOWEVER, I CAN SAY THAT ONE MAJOR PROBLEM OF THE EASTERN PROPOSALS AS THEY NOW STAND IS THAT THEY PRE-SUPPOSE WESTERN ACCEPTANCE OF EASTERN DATA ON WARSAW PACT MILITARY MANPOWER IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS. AS YOU KNOW THE WEST CONSIDERS THAT THE EAST HAS A LARGE SUPERIORITY IN GROUND FORCE MANPOWER IN THE AREA, AND THERE IS AN IMPORTANT DISCREPANCY BETWEEN WESTERN AND EASTERN DATA ON EASTERN MILITARY MANPOWER IN THE AREA.

3. THE WEST WILL CONTINUE ITS ACTIVE EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY THE SOURCES OF THIS DISCREPANCY. OF COURSE, PRIOR AGREEMENT ON DATA IS A PREREQUISITE FOR ANY AGREEMENT ON REDUCTIONS AND LIMITATIONS.

4. THE WESTERN PROPOSALS OF APRIL 19 REMAIN ON THE TABLE. THEY OFFER THE BEST BASIS FOR A REDUCTION AGREEMENT.

5. CONTINGENCY REPLY

THERE HAS BEEN SOME MODIFICATION IN THE EASTERN POSITION ON THE NATURE OF MANPOWER CEILINGS. THE NEW EASTERN
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POSITION STILL DOES NOT MEET THE WESTERN CONCEPT OF COLLECTIVE CEILING.

END TEXT.

COMMENT: IN THIS AD HOC GROUP MEETING, US REP, IN REPORTING INFORMAL, SUGGESTED THAT GROUP SHOULD SUSPEND JUDGMENT AS REGARDS OVERALL EVALUATION OF EASTERN PROPOSAL UNTIL IT HAD BEEN POSSIBLE TO MAKE MORE INQUIRIES ON INDIVIDUAL ASPECTS AND TO REFLECT FURTHER. MAJORITY AGREED. WE WILL SUBMIT ANALYSIS OF NEW PROPOSALS IN NEXT DAYS. RESOR

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NNN

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